

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Vessels Sighted in the Baltic and Barents Seas

DATE DISTR. 8 October 1957

NO. PAGES 1

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REFERENCES

50X1-HUM

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

reports on Soviet naval activity

None of these reports

discuss any unconventional vessels or armament.

Attachment No.Activity and LocationDate of Information

1	Minesweeping operations, Irbenskiy Proliv	13 July 1957	
2	Sighting of submarine north of Mys Ristna	26 July 1957	50X1-HUM
3	Sighting of submarine, surfaced and submerged, southwest of Ostrov Saaremaa	4 August 1957	
4	Sighting of submarines off Mys Veprevskiy (Barents Sea) and surface vessel-submarine exercises off Mys Teriberskiy (Barents Sea)	25-28 May 1957	

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Fleet	Type	Class	Record	Last Report	Action
Base NORTH	CC	SWAN	yes		

SECRET

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prob. Veprevskiy

- Attach. No. 4*
1. [redacted] two Soviet submarines of about 1,500 tons each with raised stem were seen west of Veprevskiy, immediately off Gorlo. They steered on southern course at high speed.

2. [redacted] *Belogs Morde?* a unit of 1 heavy cruiser and two destroyers were at position about 10 nautical miles north-northwest of Teriberskiy. The unit was engaged in exercises with another unit consisting of two destroyers of the KOTLIN Class and 12 submarines of about 500 tons which was at position 10 nautical miles west-northwest of Teriberskiy. The exercises were concluded with AA firing practices at a jet fighter (target?). The large units took off in an easterly direction while the submarines turned westward. [redacted] cruiser [redacted] returned on western course. At the same time, a cruiser of the SVERDLOV Class and, apparently, a larger naval vessel with gun turret and two stacks, were at position in the west making for Murmansk. A seaplane circled at an altitude of about 1,000 meters.

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Comment. Exercises of Soviet naval units are currently observed in the sea area mentioned. Cruiser [redacted] has since long been reported from the area of the Kola Bay. The naval vessel referred to as being "larger than the SVERDLOV cruiser presumably is a cruiser of a similar, if not identical, type. The fact that the ship appeared larger than the SVERDLOV cruiser was probably due to changed position and weather conditions. For sketch, see Annex.

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Fleet	Type	Class	Record	Last Report	Action
BALTIC	SS	"MV"	yes		C

SECRET

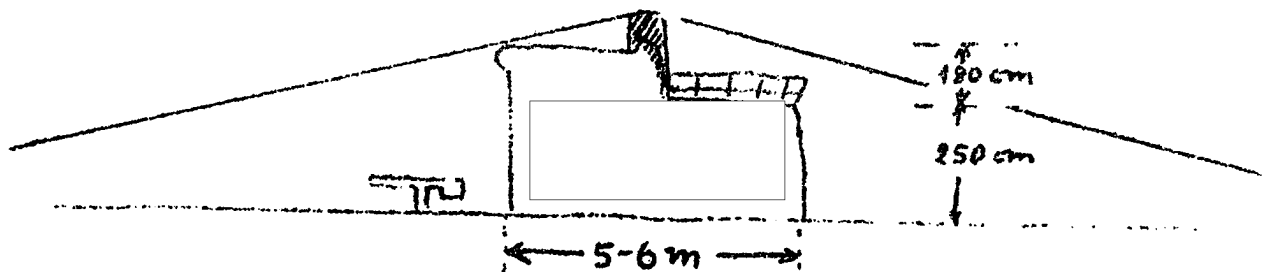
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Attach. No.
2

[redacted] Soviet submarine [redacted] was at position 15 nautical miles north of Ristna and steered 85°, making about 12 knots. The boat was about 35 meters long, and a gun was mounted forward of the conning tower.

[redacted] Comment. According to the description, the boat belongs to the MV Class. [redacted] was reported for the first time. For sketch, see Annex.

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POST

Fleet	Type	Class	Record	Last Report	Action
BAL TIC	MSF	T-43	NO		
			NO		
			NO		
			NO		
	MSI	T-301	NO		

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ATTACH. No. 1

[redacted] 12 Soviet minesweepers, presumably of type T-43, were at position in the Irben Straits. They were on mean course 80° and 260° respectively. Each two boats ran line abreast on these courses and, independent from the others, turned to reciprocal course. Small-size boats lay stopped in the above-mentioned sea area; they probably functioned as guides. One of the pairs of minesweepers [redacted]

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[redacted] The guide of the latter could not be identified. The sweeping gear could not be recognized. The wake behind each of the boats foamed up twice, that is first in the length of two boats and then 3 or 4 boats' length astern.

[redacted] Comment. Minesweeping operations or practices in this area are of interest. [redacted]

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the craft [redacted] are T-43s. The small-size vessel reported to be a guide boat [redacted] is presumably a T-301.

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